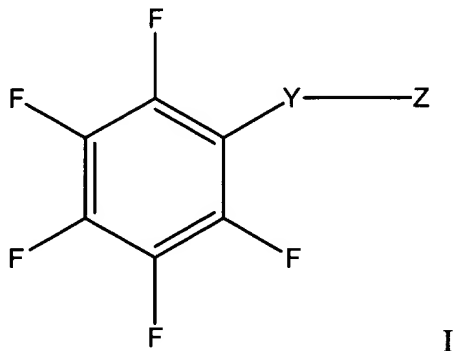


Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and a compound of formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

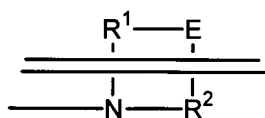
Y is $-\text{S}(\text{O})$ or $-\text{S}(\text{O})_2-$; and

Z is $-\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$; wherein R^2 is optionally substituted heteroaryl and R^1 is selected from hydrogen

substituted or unsubstituted (C1-C10)alkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C1-C10)alkoxy,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C6)alkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C2-C6)heteroalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C6)heteroalkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C6)alkynyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C8)cycloalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C5-C7)cycloalkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C5-C7)cycloalkadienyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy,

substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C3-C8)cycloalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C5-C7)cycloalkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy-(C3-C8)cycloalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C1-C4)alkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C1-C4)alkoxy,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C3-C6)alkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy-(C1-C4)alkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy-(C2-C4)heteroalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryloxy,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl-(C1-C4)alkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl-(C1-C4)alkoxy,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl-(C1-C4)heteroalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl-(C3-C6)alkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryloxy-(C1-C4)alkyl, and
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryloxy-(C2-C4)heteroalkyl,

~~wherein R¹ and R² of NR¹R² may be connected by a linking group E to give a substituent of the formula~~



~~wherein E represents a bond, (C1-C4)alkylene, or (C1-C4)heteroalkylene and the ring formed by R¹, E, R² and the nitrogen contains no more than 8 atoms;~~
provided that:

in the case that Y is -S(O₂)-, and R¹ is hydrogen or methyl, then R² is substituted heteroaryl group:

in the case that Y is -S(O₂)-, and R² is a ring system chosen from 5-quinolyl, or 4-pyridyl,

then either R¹ is not hydrogen or R² is substituted by at least one substituent that is not hydrogen;

in the case that Y is -S(O₂)- and R² is 2-methylbenzothiazol-5-yl, 6-hydroxy-4-methylpyrimidin-2-yl, 3-carbomethoxypyrazin-2-yl, 5-carbomethoxypyrazin-2-yl, 4-carboethoxy-1-phenylpyrazol-5-yl, 3-methylpyrazol-5-yl, 4-chloro-2-methylthiopyrimidin-6-yl, 2-trifluoromethyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-5-yl, 4-methylthiazol-2-yl, 6,7-dihydroindan-5-yl, 7-chloro-5-methyl-1,8-naphthyridin-2-yl, 5,7-dimethyl-1,8-naphthyridin 2-yl, or 3-cyanopyrazol-4-yl, then R¹ is a group other than hydrogen.

Claim 2 (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein

Y is -S(O)₂-.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 2, wherein R¹ is hydrogen or lower alkyl, and R² is optionally substituted pyridyl, ~~and there is no linking group E between R¹ and R².~~

Claim 4-10 (Canceled)

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the compound is 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidoindazole, or 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidoindole.

Claim 12-17 (Canceled)

Claim 18 (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of 4-Methyl-6-methoxy-2-pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyrimidine; 4,6-Dimethoxy-2-pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyrimidine; 2-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidothiophene; 3-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidothiophene; 3-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; 4-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; 2-Chloro-5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; 6-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidoquinoline; 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidobenzo[a]thiophene; 5-

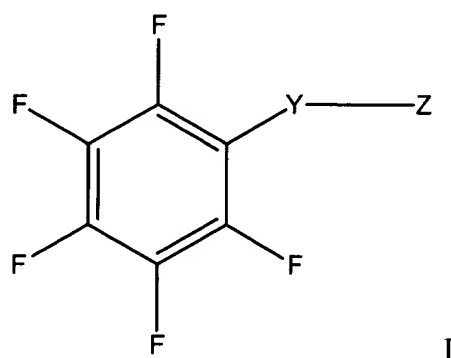
Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidobenzo[a]furan; 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidoindazole; 2-Methoxy-5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; and 2-Anilino-3-pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine.

Claims 19-40 (Canceled)

Claim 41 (original) The composition of claim 2, wherein R^1 is an optionally substituted (C2-C10)alkyl or optionally substituted (C2-C6)heteroalkyl.

Claim 42 (Canceled)

Claim 43 (Currently Amended) A method of treating a disease state characterized by abnormally high low density lipoprotein particles or cholesterol levels in the blood, which method comprises administering to a mammalian subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a composition containing a compound of formula I:



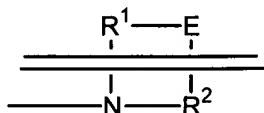
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Y is -S(O)- or -S(O)₂-;

Z is -NR¹R²; where R² is optionally substituted heteroaryl and R¹ is selected from hydrogen,

substituted or unsubstituted (C1-C10)alkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C1-C10)alkoxy,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C6)alkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C2-C6)heteroalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C6)heteroalkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C6)alkynyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C8)cycloalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C5-C7)cycloalkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C5-C7)cycloalkadienyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C3-C8)cycloalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C5-C7)cycloalkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy-(C3-C8)cycloalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C1-C4)alkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C1-C4)alkoxy,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C1-C4)heteroalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C3-C6)alkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy-(C1-C4)alkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy-(C2-C4)heteroalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryloxy,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl-(C1-C4)alkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl-(C1-C4)alkoxy,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl-(C1-C4)heteroalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl-(C3-C6)alkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryloxy-(C1-C4)alkyl, and
substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryloxy-(C2-C4)heteroalkyl,

~~wherein R¹ and R² of NR¹R² may be connected by a linking group E to give a substituent of the formula~~



~~wherein E represents a bond, (C1-C4)alkylene, or (C1-C4)heteroalkylene and the ring formed by R¹, E, R² and the nitrogen contains no more than 8 atoms; provided that:~~

in the case that Y is -S(O₂)-, and R¹ is hydrogen or methyl, then R² is a substituted heteroaryl group:

in the case that Y is -S(O₂)-, and R² is a ring system chosen from 5-quinolyl, or 4-pyridyl, then either R¹ is not hydrogen or R² is substituted by at least one substituent that is not hydrogen;

in the case that Y is -S(O₂)- and R² is 2-methylbenzothiazol-5-yl, 6-hydroxy-4-methylpyrimidin-2-yl, 3-carbomethoxypyrazin-2-yl, 5-carbomethoxypyrazin-2-yl, 4-carboethoxy-1-phenylpyrazol-5-yl, 3-methylpyrazol-5-yl, 4-chloro-2-methylthiopyrimidin-6-yl, 2-trifluoromethyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-5-yl, 4-methylthiazol-2-yl, 6,7-dihydroindan-5-yl, 7-chloro-5-methyl-1,8-naphthyridin-2-yl, 5,7-dimethyl-1,8-naphthyridin 2-yl, or 3-cyanopyrazol-4-yl, then R¹ is a group other than hydrogen.

Claim 44 (Previously presented)

The method of claim 43 wherein

Y is -S(O₂)-.

Claims 45-53 (Canceled)

Claim 54 (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein the disease state is atherosclerosis.

Claim 55 (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein the disease state is pancreatitis.

Claim 56 (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein the disease state is hypercholesterolemia.

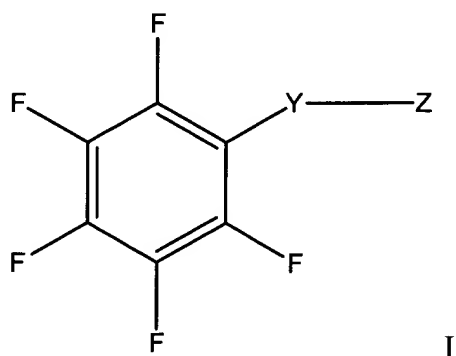
Claim 57 (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein the disease state is hyperlipoproteinemia.

Claim 58 (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein the composition is administered orally.

Claim 59 (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein the subject is human.

Claim 60 (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein the composition is administered in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of a hypolipemic agent or a hypocholesterolemic agent that is not represented by formula I.

Claim 61 (Currently amended) A compound having the formula I:



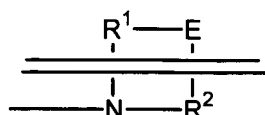
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

Y is -S(O)- or -SO₂-; and

Z is -NR¹R²; wherein R² is an optionally substituted heteroaryl group having only one or two heteroatoms in the heteroaryl ring system thereof, and R¹ is selected from

hydrogen,
substituted or unsubstituted (C2-C10)alkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C1-C10)alkoxy,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C6)alkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C2-C6)heteroalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C6)heteroalkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C6)alkynyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C3-C8)cycloalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C5-C7)cycloalkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted (C5-C7)cycloalkadienyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C3-C8)cycloalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C5-C7)cycloalkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy-(C3-C8)cycloalkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C1-C4)alkyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C1-C4)alkoxy,
substituted or unsubstituted aryl-(C3-C6)alkenyl,
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy-(C1-C4)alkyl, and
substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy-(C2-C4)heteroalkyl,

~~wherein R¹ and R² of NR¹R² may be connected by a linking group E to give a substituent of the formula~~



~~wherein E represents a bond, (C1-C4)alkylene, or (C1-C4)heteroalkylene and the ring formed by R¹, E, R² and the nitrogen contains no more than 8 atoms,~~

provided that

in the case that Y is -S(O₂)-, and R¹ is hydrogen or methyl, then R² is a substituted heteroaryl group:

in the case that Y is -S(O₂)-, and R² is a ring system chosen from 5-quinolyl, or 4-pyridyl, then either R¹ is not hydrogen or R² is substituted by at least one substituent that is not hydrogen;

in the case that Y is -S(O₂)- and R² is 2-methylbenzothiazol-5-yl, 6-hydroxy-4-methylpyrimidin-2-yl, 3-carbomethoxypyrazin-2-yl, 5-carbomethoxypyrazin-2-yl, 4-carboethoxy-1-phenylpyrazol-5-yl, 3-methylpyrazol-5-yl, 4-chloro-2-methylthiopyrimidin-6-yl, 2-trifluoromethyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-5-yl, 4-methylthiazol-2-yl, 6,7-dihydroindan-5-yl, 7-chloro-5-methyl-1,8-naphthyridin-2-yl, 5,7-dimethyl-1,8-naphthyridin 2-yl, or 3-cyanopyrazol-4-yl, then R¹ is a group other than hydrogen;

wherein said compound has pharmacological activity; and
with the proviso that heteroaryl is other than 4-pyrimidyl.

Claim 62 (Currently amended) The compound of claim 61, wherein R¹ is hydrogen or lower alkyl, and Y is -S(O₂)-, ~~and there is no linking group E between R¹ and R².~~

Claims 63-94 (Canceled)

Claim 95 (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein R¹ is hydrogen or lower alkyl, and Y is -S(O₂)-, ~~and there is no linking group E between R¹ and R².~~

Claim 96 (Currently amended) A method of claim 43, wherein R¹ is hydrogen or lower alkyl, and Y is -S(O₂)-, ~~and there is no linking group E between R¹ and R².~~

Claim 97 (canceled)

Claim 98 (Previously presented) A compound of claim 61, wherein the compound is selected

from the group consisting of 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidoindazole; 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidoindole, 4-Methyl-6-methoxy-2-pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyrimidine; 4,6-Dimethoxy-2-pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyrimidine; 2-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidothiophene; 3-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidothiophene; 3-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; 4-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; 2-Chloro-5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; 6-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidoquinoline; 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidobenzo[a]thiophene; 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidobenzo[a]furan; 2-Methoxy-5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; and 2-Anilino-3-pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine.

Claim 99 (Previously presented) A method of claim 43, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidoindazole; 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidoindole, 4-Methyl-6-methoxy-2-pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyrimidine; 4,6-Dimethoxy-2-pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyrimidine; 2-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidothiophene; 3-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidothiophene; 3-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; 4-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; 2-Chloro-5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; 6-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidoquinoline; 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidobenzo[a]thiophene; 5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidobenzo[a]furan; 2-Methoxy-5-Pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine; and 2-Anilino-3-pentafluorophenylsulfonamidopyridine.

Claim 100 (Previously presented) A compound of claim 61, wherein R¹ is an optionally substituted (C2-C10)alkyl or optionally substituted (C2-C6)heteroalkyl.

Claim 101 (Previously presented) A method of claim 44, wherein R¹ is an optionally substituted (C2-C10)alkyl or optionally substituted (C2-C6)heteroalkyl.

Claim 102 (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein said

compound is capable of increasing LDL receptor gene expression in a cell.

Claim 103 (Previously presented) A method of claim 43 wherein said compound is capable of increasing LDL receptor gene expression in a cell.

Claim 104 (Previously presented) A method of claim 43, wherein R^2 is a monocyclic heteroaryl group.

Claim 105 (Previously presented) A method of claim 43, wherein said R^2 heteroaryl group has only one heteroatom in the heteroaryl ring system.

Claim 106 (Previously presented) A method of reducing the level of low density lipoprotein particles or cholesterol in the blood of a mammalian subject in need thereof, which method comprises administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition containing a compound of Claim 61, whereby said level of low density lipoprotein particles or cholesterol is reduced.

Claim 107 (Previously presented) A method of claim 106, wherein the subject is human.

Claim 108 (Previously presented) A compound of claim 61, wherein heteroaryl is selected from the group consisting of 2-pyrrolyl, 3-pyrrolyl, 3-pyrazolyl, 2-imidazolyl, 4-imidazolyl, pyrazinyl, 2-oxazolyl, 4-oxazolyl, 5-oxazolyl, 3-isoxazolyl, 4-isoxazolyl, 5-isoxazolyl, 2-thiazolyl, 4-thiazolyl, 5-thiazolyl, 2-furyl, 3-furyl, 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, 2-pyrimidyl, 5-benzothiazolyl, purinyl, 2-benzimidazolyl, 5-indolyl, 1-isoquinolyl, 5-isoquinolyl, 2-quinoxalyl, 5-quinoxalyl, 3-quinolyl, and 6-quinolyl.

Claim 109 (Currently amended) The compound of claim 108, wherein R^1 is hydrogen or lower alkyl, and Y is $-S(O_2)-$, ~~and there is no linking group between R^1 and R^2 .~~

Claim 110 (Canceled)

Claim 111 (Previously presented) The compound of claim 61, wherein R¹ is other than unsubstituted (C2-C10)alkyl.